GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3130
ANSWERED ON:23.12.2003
REFORMS IN SPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA
PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to bring about reforms in the Sports Authority of India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including the new priorities to be fixed in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI VIJAY GOEL)

(a) Yes, Sir. Reforms and improvement in the functioning of any institution is an ongoing process.

(b) The following administrative reforms have been introduced in Sports Authority of India (SAI):-

(i) In order to give wider coverage for scouting of potential talent for imparting scientific training under the SAI Sports Promotional Schemes, revised criteria have been introduced. Keeping in view the need to promote sports in remote and rural areas and to provide an opportunity to the village children to undergo sports training, Navodaya Vidyalayas having the requisite infrastructure are being adopted.

(ii) Eleven (11) new disciplines viz., Shooting, Wushu, Taekwondo, Rowing, Kayaking & canoeing, Fencing, Soft Ball, Yatching, Sepak Takraw, Karate and Squash have been introduced in SAI`s sports curriculum in order to meet the demands of the international sports scenario.

(iii) Under the National Coaching Scheme, revised guidelines were issued to coaches for imparting sports training and incentives/special awards are being given to coaches for outstanding performance of their trainees. Emphasis has been given on incentives as well as accountability.

(iv) Monitoring system for effective utilization of the services of the coaches has been introduced so that their services could be provided across the country with maximum productivity.

(v) Six-week Advance Course for Coaches has been introduced by the Academic wing of SAI at Patiala, Bangalore and KolkataSo far 404 coaches have attended this course. Foreign exposures of our coaches by sending them abroad as well as by inviting expert coaches from outside has been taken up with increased momentum.

(vi) To bring excellence in Indian sports the scope of the existing Centre of Excellence was enlarged and introduced in all Regional Centres and the number of disciplines has also been increased from 1 to 18.

(vii) The Dope Control Centre located at JN Stadium has got the distinction of having achieved the mandatory certification ISO - 9001 : 2000 and ISO/IEC - 17025 in a record time of 18 months.This would help in keeping sports in India free from the menance of doping. For the first time, the coaches have been held accountable if their trainees were found positive in the dope test.

(viii) There has been a conscious effort to motivate the corporate world for the promotion of sports and sports persons. A beginning has been made in the form of Memorandum of Understanding signed between SAI and FICCI for co-operation in the field of sports.